

## UNION

Circ.: m. 82,722  
S. 175,379

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**ROBERT W. RICHARDS SAYS:****No One Hankering For Adams' Chores**

The writer is chief of The San Diego Union's Washington Bureau.

**NOBODY SEEMS** to want Sherman Adams' job.

The hours are long, the pay is poor, there is plenty of abuse and thanks is scant.

Even so, it would appear strange, that there have been turn downs by several of those sounded out as potential successors for the second most powerful post in the White House — and thus the United States government — if and when Adams departs.

It can be denied categorically, for example, that Vice President Nixon has asked or been offered Adams' place, should it become vacant — which is by no means certain at this time.

**NOR WOULD** Nixon take it if given the chance "to gain a little executive experience" as has been suggested by one prominent Washington journalist.

Long-time intimates of President Eisenhower, whose names have been mentioned frequently of late

as likely possibilities, have cold shouldered the suggestion they again serve their old supreme commander and now commander-in-chief.

Gen. Alfred M. Gruenther, who retired as supreme commander of the North Atlantic Treaty forces and from the Army to become president of the American Red Cross a couple of years ago, has nixed the idea.

One of the smartest brains ever to wear an Army uniform, Gruenther is quite happy where he is. He "advises" the President as an old bridge partner, and not always on how Mr. Eisenhower should play his hand in a game at which he is an authority. Gruenther is reported quite content with that role and wants nothing more.

Another retired general, Walter Bedell Smith, who served as the President's chief of staff during the war in Europe, has been U.S. ambassador to Russia and director of the Central Intelligence Agency, also is not interested.

Still another, who was "nominated" by Newsweek

magazine, so to speak, for the Adams' desk is retired Maj. Gen. Wilton B. (Jerry) Persons, the deputy assistant to the President and chief White House liaison with Congress.

The Beau Brummel of the White House "palace guard," Jerry Persons is very happy where he is.

**NEITHER DOES** Interior Secy. Seaton — perhaps the best bet to take over — should Adams quit.

For one thing, he has turned in a top performance and more than any other figure in the administration, has got credit for it.

If Seaton has his "druthers," he'll stay right where he is. Of course, should the President ask it, the Kansas-born Nebraskan would take over the top White House staff spot. But he doesn't hanker for it.

It can be said, there is no rush of candidates from within or allied with the administration, for Adams' spot, with its 12 to 18 hours days, and no thanks for it.